




February 10, 2012

TO: Mayor and Members of Council

FROM: Denise T. Roth, Interim City Manager 

SUBJECT: Items for Your Information

Contact Center

Attached is the weekly feedback report generated by our Contact Center for the week of January 30, 2012 – February 5, 2012.

Council Small Group Meetings

Attached is the weekly report of small group meetings between two or more members of the City Council and City Staff.

Agenda Items for February 21st Council Meeting

Redevelopment Commission: Attached is a memorandum from Planning & Community Development Senior Planner Dyan Arkin, dated February 9, 2012, providing an update from the January 11, 2012, Redevelopment Commission meeting. The Commission plans to present to Council their proposal at the February 21, 2012, City Council meeting.

Councilmembers Requests Follow-up

Libraries in the Digital Age: As a follow-up to an inquiry from Councilmember Vaughan, attached is a response from Greensboro Public Library Director Sandy Neerman, regarding why there is still a need for public libraries in the age of digital information.

Changes in Street Status and Addresses: As a follow-up to a request from Councilmember Bellamy-Small at the December 13, 2011 City Council meeting, attached is a memorandum from Planning & Community Development Director Sue Schwartz, dated February 8, 2012, providing the City's process and procedures in updating street name revisions and assignments.

Noise Ordinance Research: As a follow-up to Council's request from the February 7, 2012 City Council meeting, attached is a memorandum from Police Chief Ken Miller, dated February 10, 2012, providing information regarding other municipality noise ordinances and details on an upcoming meeting with bar owners and interested citizens. This meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2012 from 4pm to 5pm at GMA's Community Room, at 225 Commerce Place.

Neighborhood Park Improvements: As a follow-up to a question from Councilmember Wade at the February 7, 2012 City Council meeting, attached is a memorandum from Parks & Recreation Director Greg Jackson, dated February 10, 2012, regarding the 2008 Parks and Recreation facilities bond for the redevelopment of Heath, Steelman and Sussman neighborhood parks.

Grants Report

Attached is an updated list of grants for which the City intends to apply that do not require a match. Under the policy adopted by City Council, grants that do not require a match are not required to receive formal Council action.

DTR/mm

Attachments

cc: Office of the City Manager
Global Media

**Public Affairs
Contact Center Weekly Report
Week of 1/30/12 -2/5/12**

Contact Center

4975 calls answered this week

Top 5 calls by area

Water Resources

Balance Inquiry – 1211
New Sign up – 179
General Info – 174
Bill Extension – 172
Pay by Phone – 140

Field Operations

Bulk Guidelines – 74
HHW/Transfer – 72
Scheduled E-Waste – 64
Repair Can/Garbage – 44
Appliance Pick up – 37

All others

Police/Watch Operations – 247
Courts/Sheriff – 69
Tax Department – 47
GTA – 35
Privilege License – 35

Comments

We received a total of 9 comments this week:

Field Operations – 3 comments:

- Caller was very impressed with the courteous and helpful driver of the recycle truck. The driver provided superior service by getting out of the truck to pick up some of the recycle material that had fallen out of the can. Caller wanted the driver to know how much his actions were appreciated.
- Customer called to thank the Solid Waste supervisor and crew that serviced his home. He put trash at the curb yesterday after his street had been serviced. When he returned home, he was pleasantly surprised to find a note on the can stating that the can had not been at the curb when the street was serviced, but we had gone back and his can was empty.
- Resident is very pleased with the work that was done on his street. He was having a problem with the runoff. They repaired it and the street looks great. Would like it if they could repair the entire street this well. Very, very pleased with the work that was done.

Parks and Recreation – 1 comment:

- I would like to make a request. I live within a mile of Hester Park. My son plays basketball for the Trotter Center. We have a neighborhood full of boys that love playing basketball. Please consider putting a basketball court outside at Hester Park. The only place for these boys to play basketball is at one of the local churches, which is further away. These boys need exercise and it would keep them off the street.

Planning and Community Development – 1 comment:

- Caller visited MMOB recently and had business dealings with three different people/departments. He was very impressed by how nice everyone was to him and all the assistance he received that day.

Police – 1 comment:

- In response to the standoff earlier this week – We are the residents who live right next door and I just wanted to say thank you to the GPD for all that you did to get my family out safely and that the negotiations led to no one being injured. We appreciate you guys!

Public Affairs – 1 comment:

- You need to add contact names and phone numbers for the various departments on the departments' web pages.

Transportation – 2 comments:

- GTA route 10 on the 4:58 inbound route is 99.9% of the time extremely late. Usually by ten minutes. I ride the Randolph County Express PART bus which leaves the depot at 5:26 pm. Usually I make it there just a minute or so before it pulls away. Today the GTA route 10 did not even arrive at Market St. and Laurel (which is the stop I get on at) until 5:24, it supposed to be at the Market St. and Laurel stop at 5:12. This is 12 minutes late. There is no excuse for that. Needless to say I missed the PART bus despite the fact that it tries to wait to accommodate your slackness. I went to go talk to the customer service ladies at the depot. However, she was rude, impolite, and said it was none of their concern. I suppose you could keep a bedroom available, as the bus you have caused me to miss is the last one home. I live in Randolph County...That is a long walk. There was not even an apology or an effort to get me in touch with the PART people to work things out. I will also forward this to PART. Thanks so much for a miserable experience. You guys go out of your way to make people love public transportation.
- I just wanted to write an email to say how your employee took a complaint I had concerning GTA and immediately responded and addressed the issue. She did not get defensive or pretend she could not do anything but was helpful and informative. Greensboro needs more helpful and caring public servants like her.

Overall

Calls for the Greensboro Transit Authority (GTA) increased while calls for the Guilford County Tax Department remained steady last week. Call volume was busy through the end of the week.

SMALL GROUP MEETINGS

Date	Councilmember	Department / Person Contacted	Subject
January 21, 2012	N. Vaughan, Z. Matheny	Police: Chief K. Miller (Police) J. Clark (Police Attorney)	Entertainment Facility Standards Ordinance, Tent & Noise Ordinances, Nuisance Abatement, Police Reserves and Homeless Camps
January 23, 2012	Mayor Perkins, Z. Matheny	Executive: D. Roth, M. Speedling (CMO) S. Drew, K. McDowell (Water Resources)	The Village: water pressure for community w/ Steve Showfety
January 25, 2012	Mayor Perkins, Y. Johnson, Z. Matheny	Executive: D. Roth (CMO)	Community Issues w/ Walker Sanders, Community Foundation



February 9, 2012

TO: Denise T. Roth, Interim City Manager

FROM: Dyan Arkin, AICP

SUBJECT: South Elm Street Redevelopment – Developer Selection

At their January 11, 2012 meeting, the Redevelopment Commission of Greensboro selected South Elm Development Group, LLC to develop the South Elm Street Redevelopment Project site and directed staff to begin negotiation of terms and conditions that should ultimately result in a Master Development Agreement.

South Elm Development Group, LLC has proposed a \$42,800,000 development program that includes mixed-income housing, retail/commercial space, public meeting spaces and is investigating the feasibility of a hotel. The Commission will present the development team and their proposal at the February 21, City Council meeting.

The residents of Greensboro have been engaged in South Elm Street Redevelopment since early 2004, when the City Manager appointed a 17-member Community Advisory Team representing a broad range of perspectives including area residents and businesses, economic development organizations, development interests, and advocates for affordable housing, the environment, historic preservation and the downtown. When it was time to select a developer for the project, it was natural that the Redevelopment Commission look to the members of this original group to act in an advisory capacity and to provide a continuous voice for the many groups affected by the project. All members of the original team were invited to participate and eight agreed to do so. The Commission also invited area property owners. The 10-member Community Advisory Group was officially seated in May 2011; members of the team reviewed the proposals, attended Commission meetings, provided feedback on process and proposal content, and participated in the site visits and interviews that led to the selection of South Elm Development Group, LLC.

Proposals for development teams were received on March 31, 2012. Between March 31, 2011 and January 11, 2012 seventeen regular and special Commission meetings with South Elm Street Redevelopment on the agenda were held. The selection of a developer was made at the January 11, 2012 meeting. Copies of each meeting agenda are sent by email to the City Manager's Office, City Council members, media contacts, key staff members, and neighborhood leadership in Willow Oaks, Ole Asheboro, Arlington Park, Warnersville, Eastside Park and the Concerned Citizens of Northeast Greensboro.

Attached is a timeline of activities and events associated with preparation of the Request for Proposals and the developer selection process. Please let me know if you have questions or would like additional information.

DA/mm

cc: Andy Scott, Assistant City manager
Sue Schwartz, P&CD Director
Barbara Harris, P&CD Development Division Manager

Developer Selection Process Timeline

Date	Action
Early 2007	Redevelopment Plan adopted by City Council
2007-2009	Site assembly and preparation for development: acquisition, relocation, demolition, remediation
October 2009 – February 2010	Ole Asheboro Hotel development proposal is presented; public hearing for sale of land; Developer does not to pursue the South Elm site
April 8, 2010	Technical Advisory Committee unanimously approved to assist staff and Commission with Request for Proposals and submittals John Linn, Architect Mitchell Silver, Urban Planner/Planning Director Raleigh Mac Nichols, Economic Development Consultant
April – December 2010	Staff and Commissioners work to produce Request for Proposals, Community Engagement Plan, and RCG Vision Statement Eight Redevelopment Commission Meetings and Work Sessions are held during this period
December 15, 2010	Request for Proposals is published – document is distributed through local and regional channels
January – March 2011	Seven presentations by staff on South Elm Street Redevelopment DGI Econ Development Board Meeting Arlington Park Neighborhood Association Greensboro Neighborhood Congress Ole Asheboro Neighborhood Association Warnersville Community Meeting Central Gateway Business Alliance American Society for Public Administrators
January 18, 2011	Optional pre-submission meeting and site tour
February 9, 2011	Redevelopment Commission extends deadline for proposal submissions from 2/15/11 to 3/31/11
March 31, 2011	Five proposals received South Elm Development Group Duany Plater-Zyberk Belmont Sayre South Elm Street Redevelopment Partners HJ Russell
April 25 – May 2, 2011	Redevelopment Commission holds five special meetings to allow development teams to present their proposals in person
May 11, 2011	Commission votes to eliminate two of the five proposals from further consideration
June 8, 2011	Commission engages Community Advisory Group Members included former CAT members John Harris, Will Leimenstoll, Dabney Sanders, Evelyn Taylor, Carolyn Flowers, Jonathon Bush, Jim Bryan, Greg Chabon; and property owners Eric Robert, Sidney Gray
June - August 2011	Staff and technical assistance professionals review and rate proposals for strengths, weaknesses, and accuracy
August 29, 2011	Commissioners, staff and Community Advisors visit HJ Russell sites in Atlanta

Date	Action
September 1, 2011	Commissioners, staff and Community Advisors visit South Elm Development Group sites in Durham
September 16, 2011	Commissioners, staff and Community Advisors visit South Elm Street Redevelopment Partners sites in Winston-Salem
September 21, 2011	Commissioners and Community Advisors discuss site visits, development team strengths and weaknesses Commission directs staff to schedule interview for South Elm Street Redevelopment Partners
October 12, 2011	South Elm Street Redevelopment Partners interview Commission directs staff to schedule interviews with other developers under consideration
November 9, 2011	South Elm Development Partners Interview
December 16, 2011	HJ Russell Interview
January 11, 2012	Staff reviews selection process and developers Commissioners Chaney, Enochs, and McQueary vote to select South Elm Development Group for further negotiation Commissioner Gravely was not in attendance, but had expressed his intention by phone to vote for South Elm Street Redevelopment Partners
February 3, 2012	South Elm Development Group presents their recommended process to produce a detailed Master Development Agreement Commissioners are all present and vote unanimously to directed staff to finalize and execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the developer Commissioners agree to present the developer at the February 21, 2012 Council Meeting



February 9, 2012

TO: Denise T. Roth, Interim City Manager

FROM: Sandy Neerman, Library Director

SUBJECT: Public Libraries in the Digital Age

In response to questions by Councilmember Nancy Vaughan concerning the need of public libraries in the digital age, please find attached the Director's response and see below a synopsis.

Why the Greensboro Public Library is flourishing in the face of 21st century technology revolution:

1. **Multiple formats:** Greensboro Public Library offers materials in numerous formats such as printed books, periodicals, microfilm, CDs, DVDs and online databases, as well as downloadable materials such as e-Books, audiobooks, videos, and music.
2. **Neighborhood centers:** Greensboro Public Library's neighborhood branches are very active neighborhood centers hubs where individuals and organization come to interact and grow in a safe learning environment.
3. **Literary & Multicultural Festivals:** The library's literary programs and festivals attracted more than 7000 participants last year.
4. **Educational Programs & Homework Help:** In the past year the Library presented 3,744 educational programs for all ages. We offer free online homework assistance help from professional tutors. Weekly preschool story times are designed to promote language development and print recognition skills.
5. **Business Support:** Greensboro Public Library provided 193 one-on-one personal career consultations and 49 workshops last year.
6. **Support for job seekers:** Job and Career Counselor presented 1007 personal career consultation and 49 workshops last year.
7. **Digital "Have-Nots":** Our libraries are filled daily with customers who do not have access to the digital tools that most of us take for granted. For those customers, the library provides tools and training so that they too can participate fully in our community.

Why Greensboro Public Library customers will continue to rely on physical formats for the foreseeable future:

1. **Few unlimited downloads:** Few of the copyrighted eBooks are available for unlimited downloads; publishers impose a physical model on eBooks whereby only one copy may be used by one customer at a time.

2. **Publishers policies:** Of the big six publishers, only Random House fully supports free lending of eBooks. Macmillan and Simon and Schuster have refused to make their books available to libraries in 3Book format.
3. **Transitioning:** Greensboro Public Library is in a transitional period in which physical formats are gradually being replaced by downloadable ones.

How are we planning library services and facilities for the digital age:

1. **Customized collections:** The Greensboro Public Library develops customized collections for each library facility with an emphasis on the needs and interests of the neighborhood being served.
2. **Phasing out Print:** Print reference collections are being phased out to be replaced with on-line databases and the NCLive online resources.
3. **Librarians' jobs changing:** Reference Librarians are becoming digital literacy guides and facilitators for our residents as they move to digital devices.
4. **Facilities designed for the future:** Library facilities in the future will function less as collections of physical materials and more as gathering places for learning, community-building activities and programs.

SN/pcs

Attachment

Do We Need Public Libraries In The Digital Age?

The Greensboro Public Library is one of more than 9,000 public library systems in the United States. All are challenged by reductions in federal, state and local funds, rapid changes in technology and the changes in how customers are using libraries.

While public libraries are losing resources, customer usage is increasing. Last year the Greensboro Public Library's annual checkout of materials increased by 4% and visits to our Libraries increased by 11%. 1,652,757 books and materials were checked out and the Library hosted 3,299,425 visitors. The average attendance during this time period was 9,657 visitors per day.

Greensboro Public Library offers materials in numerous formats such as printed books (paperback and hardbacks), periodicals (magazines and newspapers), microfilm, CDs, DVDs and online databases, as well as downloadable materials such as eBooks, audiobooks, videos, and music. Juvenile books and materials made up 50% of the 1,652,757 books and materials checked out last year. Last year downloadable materials represented less than 2% of the total year's checkouts. The Library had over 500,000 computer users in 2011.

Greensboro Public Library facilities are more than repositories for books, they are neighborhood hubs where individuals and organizations come to interact and grow in a safe learning environment. Library programming contributes directly to the quality of life in our community. The very popular One City, One Book unites the community in discussions of important issues such as homelessness, aging, racism and more. Programs like Poetry GSO and Day of the Child, Day of the Book attracted over 6,000 participants.

Vital to the economy and overall well-being of the area is an educated workforce. Early language development plays a key role in school readiness and future academic ability. Library story times and children's programs are designed to improve pre-literacy skills, helping prepare our children for success in school. In the first quarter of this year the Library provided 182 pre-school programs.

Research shows that most children will lose reading skills and vocabulary if they do not keep reading over the extended summer break. Each year the Library offers a Summer Reading program that provides incentives and innovative programming that keeps children reading. This past summer 4,000 children registered for the Library's Summer Reading program and 15,000 attended Summer Reading events.

In the past year the Library presented 3,744 educational programs for all ages. From the very young child, who is learning to read, to the teen looking for ways to express his creativity, to the senior adult, who is learning to use a computer, our educational services are in high demand. One of our most helpful resources for students is Live Homework Help. Thousands of professional tutors offer free online help from 2 — 10 pm seven days a week. The new McGirt-Horton Branch has a wing designed especially for teens with video editing equipment and a sound booth for producing multi-media projects.

Economists agree that small businesses drive economic growth and provide the majority of private sector jobs. Last year Greensboro Public Library provided 193 one-on-one small business consultations and offered 73 workshops. *Businessweek* featured a story titled "The

Library: Next Best Thing to an MBA" which cited a study showing that 61% of small-business owners said libraries were important in helping them get started.

The unemployed and underemployed in our community use the Greensboro Public Library to begin their search for a better future. Last year we provided 1,007 personal career consultations and presented 49 workshops. In addition to consultations and workshops the Library provides indispensable online tools for job seekers including ResumeMaker which helps users create a professional resume with step-by-step instructions.

In a struggling economy families turn to the public library for free entertainment. For many families it can be cost prohibitive to spend \$40 or \$50 to go to a movie. The Library offers recent DVDs, family game nights, after-school programs, family movie nights, story times, crafts, books and more. In other words, the Library provides a fantastic variety of family entertainment options, all at no cost.

In the fast-paced information age, the public library has a unique role and responsibility to assure that all residents have a place where they can access the free and unbiased information they need to pursue their hopes and dreams of becoming more educated, informed and successful.

The Evolution of eBooks

The growing popularity of eBooks and the mobile devices used to read them has attracted considerable attention lately. However, though downloadable formats are growing rapidly in popularity, Greensboro Public Library customers will continue to rely on physical formats for the foreseeable future. Regardless of the attention eBooks generate in the media, relatively few people have access to the technology. Last year, less than 2% of our checkouts were for downloadable materials.

The publishing industry has a legal and financial interest in digital rights management or the protection of copyright. Very few of the copyrighted eBooks Greensboro Public Library purchases are available for unlimited downloads; rather publishers impose a physical model on eBooks whereby only one copy may be used by one customer at a time.

Of the so-called big six publishers, only Random House fully supports free-lending of eBooks. MacMillan and Simon & Schuster have refused to make their books available to libraries in eBook format. Penguin and Hachette are either delaying or refusing to make new eBook releases available to libraries. Harper Collins limits eBook licenses for libraries to 26 loans per copy. At this time publisher resistance to library lending of eBooks is growing, not declining.

Currently, we find ourselves in a transitional period in which physical formats are gradually being replaced by downloadable ones. Greensboro Public Library is incrementally reallocating its materials budget to accommodate this change in formats.

Planning Services for the Community

Looking to the future, the Greensboro Public Library is already developing library collections for each location with an emphasis on the neighborhood being served. Print reference collections are being phased out to be replaced with on-line databases and the NC LIVE online resources. Print magazines collections are also being examined to determine the best and most cost effective format. Reference Librarians are becoming digital literacy guides and facilitators for our residents as they move to digital devices. The new Northeast Library will more vividly reflect these transitional characteristics.

Library facilities in the future will function less as collections of physical materials and more as gathering places for communities. The role of public libraries as a resource for the 'information have nots' and those with digital literacy challenges will become even more important in the planning of future facilities.

Since the new Northeast Library completes the 1998 Branch Improvement Plan, future library facilities may be considered as pilot programs for the school/public library joint facility concept. Another concept under consideration is combining library services with new Park and Recreation center facilities. Both ideas offer the potential to maximize resources while continuing to provide facilities and services that best serve the community. The Library currently has an unfunded capital request for a renovation at our Vance Chavis location that could incorporate a partnership with the Windsor Recreation Center.

This is an exciting time for the Greensboro Public Library with many challenges and opportunities to serve the residents of our community. There are advantages that allow public libraries to be successful in any competitive environment:

- Library staff provide unbiased service at no charge. Librarians have no commercial or political incentive to affect their advice and adhere to a professional code of ethics. Service is provided to everyone from the youngest to the eldest, the richest to the poorest, most educated to those who cannot read.
- Libraries are safe havens and community hubs for people looking for a place to gather. Libraries offer unique social interaction around information.
- Public Libraries are trusted as a source of accurate, unbiased information.
- Our community values the public library. In the last ten years voters have approved bond referendums to build and improve five library facilities. Those facilities have also been enhanced by two successful capital campaigns which raised private funds to add technology, art and welcoming children's areas.
- The Library offers information, education and entertainment all in one package.



February 8, 2012

TO: Denise T. Roth, Interim City Manager

FROM: Sue Schwartz, FAICP Director

SUBJECT: Internal and External Notifications of Changes in Street Status and Addresses

A question arose at the December 13, 2011, City Council meeting concerning how and when official maps are updated when there are street name changes, new streets, etc. The Planning and Community Development department is responsible for managing the assignment and revisions of street names and addresses within the City. The following information explains the current procedures for notifications regarding address changes and describes a planned initiative to encourage all property owners to properly post accurate addresses on their properties.

Existing street addresses can change for a number of reasons, including when a city street/alley is closed or a street name changes. As those changes are approved, staff updates all necessary GIS (Geographic Information Systems) files and/or databases in real-time. Planning and Community Development staff distributes all change information to the following:

- other City staff
- Guilford County staff, including Guilford County Schools and Board of Elections
- Public safety personnel - Fire, Police Guilford Metro 911, and EMS
- US Postal Service
- Private Utilities and other service providers - Piedmont Natural Gas, Duke Energy, AT&T, Time Warner Cable, Republic Services, Inc, Waste Industries, TeleAtlas, and UPS

All notifications are sent via email distribution lists, while property owners and residents are notified by postal mail. The Planning and Community Development website also offers a page which tracks changes to city streets/alleys, as well as, annexation information, which may also affect addresses. The website can be found at <http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/index.aspx?page=1654>.

An accurately posted address is critical to the safety of our citizens and public safety personnel. Correct addresses are also a vital factor in promoting commercial activity. In an effort to raise awareness of this issue, the Planning and Community Development department is partnering with Guilford Metro 911 and the Public Relations department to plan a Public Service campaign stressing the importance of posting clear and visible addresses. We will be coordinating this campaign with Fire and Police. We will provide more information as it is available.

SC



Friday, February 10, 2012

TO: Denise T. Roth, Interim City Manager

FROM: Ken Miller, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Noise Ordinance Research

At its February 7, 2012 meeting, City Council requested City Staff to meet with bar owners and discuss their concerns as part of the process to develop an amendment to our Noise Ordinance addressing amplified noise from commercial establishments. In response, the Police Department sought the assistance of Ed Wolverton of Downtown Greensboro, Inc., who has very helpfully facilitated a meeting with bar owners as well as interested citizens. The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 16, 2012, from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., at 225 Commerce Place in the GMA Community Room.

City Council further directed City Staff to begin review of noise ordinances used by other municipalities including other jurisdictions, and several City Council members took particular notice of the noise ordinance enacted by Greenville, South Carolina. To date, City Staff has reviewed ordinances to analyze the different approaches taking to managing noise by the following jurisdictions in North Carolina:

Apex	Durham (City & County)	Jacksonville
Asheville	Fayetteville	Raleigh
Cary	Gastonia	Rocky Mount
Chapel Hill	Greenville	Wilmington
Charlotte	Henderson	Wilson
Concord	High Point	Winston-Salem

A summary of the ordinances from the 15 highest-populated municipalities in North Carolina (other than Greensboro) has been prepared and is attached for City Council to review. The summary describes the general effect of the particular provisions in each ordinance, which does or may affect amplified noise from commercial establishments.

Staff is currently conducting a review of the following locations, which are municipalities of the states immediately surrounding North Carolina, and Florida (utilizing municipalities from this regional jurisdiction with significant population and significant entertainment use districts):

Richmond, VA
Norfolk, VA
Virginia Beach, VA
Charleston, SC
Columbia, SC

Greenville, SC
Atlanta, GA
Columbus, GA
Savannah, GA
Jacksonville, FL

Orlando, FL
Tampa, FL
Montgomery, AL
Mobile, AL
Nashville, TN

Staff will prepare an additional summary, which gives somewhat more detail as to the noise ordinances used by each, as well as re-prints of particular language, which may be effective in an amendment to address amplified noise from commercial establishments. This summary and supporting documents are anticipated to be completed and available for City Council review by Friday, February 17, 2012.

The Legal Department will also prepare a memorandum to address concerns that City Council expressed for the effects of the draft text amendment on the Coliseum, New Bridge Bank Park and other issues raised at the February 7th City Council meeting.

Finally, the City Manager's Office will coordinate scheduling meetings for City Council with officers from Central Patrol Division responsible for handling noise ordinance complaints. These informational meetings will include an opportunity for City Council members to observe sound level measurements and obtain first-hand information that relates particular decibel readings to the actual volume of sound from a source.

KCM/jac

cc: Tom Pollard, Interim City Attorney
Jim Clark, Police Attorney

**Summary of outdoor noise ordinances in the remaining 15 NC communities
over 50,000 in population (per Yr 2000 U.S. Census)**

Summary Bullets:

- Only Greenville (permit only) and Charlotte (only between 2 am and 8 am) absolutely ban outdoor amplified noise
- The remaining 13 either do not regulate outdoor amplified noise, or set thresholds of maximum sound levels at such a low level that the sound is not audible or very faint from nearby locations (for this study, I included regulations that cover all amplified noise, which also regulates outdoor sources)
- These thresholds vary from “not audible within xx feet” to setting measurable Decibel levels at such a low level that the sound is attenuated
- Several communities also set additional thresholds to further lower the sound levels for sound-producers located near residential, hospital and church areas
- Very likely that their effectiveness is based on much-reduced maximum sound levels leading to more easily provable cases, and therefore more effective enforcement actions against the violators
- Although not specifically evaluated, many of the noise ordinances appear to rely more heavily upon either 1) nuisance abatement enforcement, or 2) enforcement as a civil penalty

Summary of supporting data for each community:

1. Asheville

Noise ordinance is Ch. 10, Art. IV of their Code. This ordinance does not regulate amplified outdoor noise during specific hours. No specific dB(A) maximum permitted sound level.

2. Cary

Noise ordinance is Ch. 22, Art. IV, Div. 2 of their Code. This ordinance regulates sound levels during specific periods, but does not ban amplified sound at specific times. It also requires additional noise reductions for sound producing devices near residential areas after 11 pm and 2 am. Maximum permitted dB(A) levels vary based on time. 40 dB(A) is the “lowest” maximum permitted sound level.

3. Chapel Hill

Noise ordinance is Ch. 11, Art. III of their Code. Noise ordinance is Ch. 26, Art. II of their Code. This ordinance regulates sound levels during specific periods, but does not ban amplified sound at specific times. Limitation is no sound level to exceed specified dB(A) between 11pm and 7 am, 12 pm on weekends. Maximum permitted dB(A) levels vary, with levels decreasing progressively at the sound is higher within the audible frequency range.

4. Charlotte

Noise ordinance is Ch. 15, Art. III of their Code. This ordinance prohibits outdoor amplified or musical instrument sounds from commercial establishments between 2 am and 8 am. It does allow outdoor sounds at other times, but not to exceed specified dB(A) levels. It also requires additional noise reductions for sound producing devices near residential areas after 11 pm. Maximum permitted dB(A) levels vary based on use and proximity to residential districts; 50 dB(A) is the “lowest” maximum permitted sound level.

5. Concord

Noise ordinance is Ch. 30, Art. V of their Code. This ordinance does not prohibit outdoor amplified sound, but does limit sound to below a “plainly audible” maximum permitted sound level within 30 feet of any residential property.

6. Durham / Durham County (both reviewed due to consolidation)

Durham – Noise ordinance is Ch. 26, Art. II of their Code. This ordinance regulates sound levels during specific periods, but does not ban amplified sound at specific times. Maximum permitted dB(A) levels vary based on use and proximity to residential districts; 50 dB(A) is the “lowest” maximum permitted sound level.

Durham County - Noise ordinance is Ch. 14, Art. II of their Code. This ordinance does not regulate amplified outdoor noise during specific hours. No specific maximum permitted dB(A) sound level.

7. Fayetteville

Noise ordinance is Ch. 17, Sec. 17-16 of their Code. This ordinance does not regulate amplified outdoor noise during specific hours. No specific maximum permitted dB(A) sound level.

8. Gastonia

Noise ordinance is Ch. 5, Sec. 5-1 through 5-7 of their Code. This ordinance does not regulate amplified outdoor noise during specific hours. No specific maximum permitted dB(A) sound level.

9. Greenville

Noise ordinance is Title 12, Ch. 5 of their Code. Outdoor amplified sound is only permitted upon issuance of a permit. This ordinance regulates sound levels during specific periods. 55 dB(A) is the “lowest” maximum permitted sound level.

10. High Point

Noise ordinance is Title 12, Ch. 1, Sec. 12-1-10 of their Code. This ordinance regulates amplified outdoor noise during specific hours between 2 am and 7 am; amplified sound may not be audible within 30 feet of the building. Otherwise, there is no specific time regulation or maximum permitted dB(A) sound level from commercial establishments.

11. Jacksonville

Noise ordinance is Ch. 15, Art. II, Div. 2 of their Code. This ordinance regulates sound levels during specific periods, but does not ban amplified sound at specific times. Limitation for commercial establishments is no sound level to exceed 70 dB(A) as measured at the next nearest building after 10pm. 50 dB(A) is the “lowest” maximum permitted sound level.

12. Raleigh

Noise ordinance is Div. II, Part 12, Ch. 5 of their Code. This ordinance regulates sound levels during specific periods, but does not ban amplified sound at specific times. Limitation is no sound level to exceed specified dB(A) between 11pm and 7 am. 45 dB(A) is the “lowest” maximum permitted sound level.

13. Rocky Mount

Noise ordinance is Ch. 10, Art. III, Div. 4 of their Code. This ordinance prohibits audible amplified sound more than 100 feet away from the property where the sound is produced, except with a permit. No specific maximum permitted dB(A) sound level.

14. Wilmington

Noise ordinance is Ch. 26, Art. II of their Code. This ordinance regulates sound levels during specific periods, but does not ban amplified sound at specific times. Maximum permitted dB(A) levels vary based on use districts; 55 dB(A) is the “lowest” maximum permitted sound level.

15. Winston-Salem

Noise ordinance is Ch. 46 of their Code, and the Forsyth County Code is also incorporated. These ordinances regulate sound levels during specific periods, but do not ban amplified sound at specific times. No specific maximum permitted dB(A) sound level.



February 10, 2012

TO: Denise T. Roth, Interim City Manager

FROM: Greg Jackson, Director

SUBJECT: Neighborhood Park Improvements

The 2008 Parks and Recreational facilities bond included \$310,575 for the redevelopment of Heath, Steelman and Sussman neighborhood parks. These three parks were identified because of their lack of amenities and deteriorating conditions.

The \$30 million in General Bond Anticipation Notes whose sale was approved at the February 7th Council meeting included \$100,000 for neighborhood park improvements. The department sent out a Request for Proposals in November 2011 seeking consultants to develop master plans for the neighborhood parks identified. Westcott Small and Associates was selected to plan and design Heath and Steelman parks and J. Hyatt Hammond and Associates was selected to design Sussman Park. The design process will include community meetings to gather public input regarding desired new park amenities and renovation of existing features. Final master plans will be presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission and City Council for approval.

Once the master plans have been approved, staff will work with neighborhoods to prioritize the park improvements. When the remaining \$210,575 in bonds is approved in a future issuance, the highest priorities in each neighborhood park master plans will be addressed.

The department has placed an emphasis on improving neighborhood parks throughout the park system and is making smaller improvements such as replacing basketball goals, improving landscaping, replacing signage and repairing fencing within our operating budget.

GJ/nm

cc: Butch Shumate, Construction Projects Division Manager
Nasha McCray, Division Manager, Planning & Project Development
Reggie Lee, Project Manager



City of Greensboro Grant Applications Submitted

<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grants Projects / Description of Purpose</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Department Requesting Funding</u>	<u>Council Notification Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
Easton Foundation	Grant provides \$5,000 worth of specialized archery equipment plus scholarships to cover training, travel, accommodations and meals for selected Parks and Rec professionals.	\$5,000	Parks and Recreation Department	February 10, 2012	Approved by Department on February 6, 2012
Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro - Teen Grantmaking Council	Camille's Magic Closet provides new and gently used prom dresses and accessories to underprivileged young women for their proms.	\$2,000	Parks and Recreation Department	January 13, 2012	Approved by Department on December 20, 2011
NC Department of Administration - Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office	Grant will provide a conference for youth across the state to attend and participate in activities and training focusing on leadership and teambuilding skills.	\$500	Parks and Recreation Department	January 13, 2012	Approved by Department on September 15, 2011